From: Bill Pickering

To: Microsoft ATR,microsoftcomments@doj.ca.gov@inetgw,...

Date: 11/25/01 1:41pm

Subject: Unacceptable MS antitrust settlement

AMERICA MUST FACE THIS IMPORTANT ISSUE AND RESPOND CORRECTLY

The proposed terms of antitrust settlement with Microsoft to distribute free operating software to education markets is totally unacceptable and should NOT be passed by individual states. The proposed action is really not a penalty -- it is a benefit to Microsoft.

- 1. Anyone with an abacus can figure out it doesn't cost \$1billion to press, distribute CDs to schools. This is only a slap on the wrist, and certainly no where close to true community service! It's ineffective action against a known monopoly.
- 2. Sending free Microsoft Windows CDs to schools is only forcing education markets to accept the Windows operating system -- a contrived ploy to further perpetuate the very Microsoft monopoly the justice department is trying so diligently to eliminate! Schools who use other computing platforms receive no benefit from this proposed action.

The proposed settlement is pure nonsense, designed to benefit no one except Microsoft.

Please do not accept this ridiculous settlement proposal. It would be devastating to our economy in the long run, and it demoralizes America's trust in our justice system.

Hundreds of thousands of parents, teachers and students across our nation have already reviewed and rejected this proposal. These folks are now asking and watching to see if individual states are also wise enough to see the deception behind this proposal and refuse it's acceptance.